4/14/70

Dear Paul (cc Gary only),

When I received your prelim 4/2/70 On Quiroga I believe I made a few comments. What follows is mixed devil's advocacy, conjecture, recollection that may be faulty and possibly some fact.

First, I think I drew on NO T-5 docs in O in NO. Just checked index and find citation to 17H756 where there is what I'd take to be a different NO T-5, but one interesting thing makes me wonder. The 17H NO T-5 reported LHO's July address at 4907 Magazine and the Quiroga NO T-5 went to 4907, only to find it was 4905. Coincidence? Perhaps. But take my word for it, 4905 is the side porch (referred to by the Commission as back porch), and if I didn't show you pictures of it I can, for I have them (polaroids but the numbers can be read).

There is an obvious question you haven't asked: for what purpose(s) was QUIroga an FBI informant? Certainly not for purposes of reporting on pro-Castro activities. Among the possibilities are reporting on anti- Castro activities, which should have been a legitimate FBI interest all along (enurtality act, for one thing) and may well have been ordered after 10/62. Is it reasonable to presume Q. had only then become an informant? I think not.

One thing I remember from Garrison's description of the interrogation of Quiroga is that he said he didn't recall ever seeing a man so frightened. He said he offered Q not to call him before the grand jury is he took a lie detector test and passed it. My recollection is not too certain on this, but I remember it this way.

There is no doubt that Quiroga was Arcacha's shadow (perhaps both way?), that his name was well known to Banister and I think the FBI, and it is studiously avoided in "On The Ball Wall's" reports. Coincidence? Or was he an informant in 1962 or earlier? I have earlier commented on his seeming to be well supplied with funds, though a refugee student, parents Castro's prisoner and all that. In this connection, let me recall the fiction I exposed, that it was for the protection of Q's parents that Bringuier didn't want his name used, whereas it has been both used and published in that context by the WC. The difference is B's request was of the press when the Garrison story broke.

One recognized reason for withholding is the protection of sources of information, which makes disclosure even more unusual than you suggest. But I do think the timing was such Kleindienst may have been looking for something to seem like a decent guy about or to ease his conscience over, for he sure as hell knew what was going on between him and me, esp. 3/25, if you recall the letters I've sent. Also, if and when you find other NO T-r pages, you may find other reasons.

Have I suggested possible answers to your questions prior to who LAC is? I recall but one agent whose name begins with C, Callender. For some reason, the name Cervignon keeps coming to mind. Unless it is he I do not know who LAC is. If JAS is the typist, you failuto note the added initials of dmm on p. 2. None of these initial match those of agents I came accross in O in NO, which is rather interesting and again can be taken to indicate Q was realted to the other side of the FBI family, the anti-C branch.

When you refer to what you are so right in saying, "keep that in mind", that bit about "furnished reliable information in the past", you raise what could be endless interesting conjectures, one of which is why anyone would tell Q about the O lit dist. A possibility is that he was known among some of the blabbermouth Latins as an informant. Failure to name to rep of Puerto Rico is not inconsistent

is it? My oldest ITM listing from the directory is of 1965, and there was then no PR office in the ITM bldg. I checked the listing for Alice, and he has several attributed to his office, but PR is not one. And I think, somewhere, perhaps in my enormous Bringuier file, I have the name of the one who told Q...There are several things making that Thompson's restaurant interesting, but it is fuzzy in my mind. It is close to the ITM, as is the 1200 block of St. Charles, where Arnesto Rodriguez had his school (and Hoke May insists R is FBI).

If the FBI gave Q the "cold shoulder", what is strange, or what else would they have done if they'd known all about LHO, as I presume. Did he not ask for them when busted, etc? He might well have been told to tell the SS this to preserve his cover and the FBI's.

We can assume he may have told both the police and the FBI, or that he is using covers. Why should the police have had any interest? If he had told the Intelligence Unit, that would have been different, but telling the cops of that District was like telling them the time of day, it meant nothing, for there was nothing illegal. If they recalled the previous incident, they also knew, despite everything, that it was not LHO who caused the fracas.

I believe I had previously written that deBrueys knew better than to say this was so brief a distribution and why, Jesse Core being but one of the reasons....I have a small Quiroga and a large Bringuier file (where my Q NO report may be). You may want to go through both when you are here....And couldn't Q have told the police because he'd have liked O busted again? For real personal, not FBI, reasons?...But these are cogent refs to the Knack and deBrueys reports, made no less interesting by the absence of a Knack affidavit and the FBI's withholding of some of the deB reports which came from State.

The arrival of the police after LHO disappeared is meaningless, for it does not reflect the length of the picketing. We do not know how long it had gone on before Q learned or how long it took him to tell them. If it is possible deB took Q's word for it, I think not, because Jesse also phoned him as soon as he simmered down. I recall his surprise that deB was so without interest, as he made it appear to Jesse. Very un-FBI like. This is in a memo I sent you from NC.

If you reread 10H62 you may agree it is possible to draw other conclusions than that Martello forgot about this. First of all, Liebeler asked him what he was "involved" in, and if he did nothing he wasn't involved, and besides, he took this to mean his involvement with Oswald...One possible assumption here is that M knew Q was an FBI stoolie and saw no point in duplicating. However, it is also important to understand that he was then not in intelligence and is not mental giant anyway.

Q telling the SS that the Stupidity told him to "infiltrate" Oswald may have been the truth and it may also have been that Q suggested to to B, whose ego and "understanding" are such he might thereafter have regarded it as his own brilliance. And, whether or not B did, others could have suggested it (not necessary for any conclusions). This was just that kind of situation. And don't forget that, even if the record is deficient on the point, Q did take Butler there, didn't he? I have a Garner report saying a latin I take to have been Q bringing an Anglo.

I presume with you the pamphlet was the Lamont, and with the 544 address. When you are here let us talk of your writing Bringuier. It is a good idea and, done properly, might work.

Ref to car is interesting. One of the things it made me wonder about is whether this was photographed and there thus was need to identify the car that might have been in the picture. Child's play to photograph all the comings and goings

at that address from inside a car. This LAC branch of the family could have known the other was doing it, or other relatives, etc.

I think the report is false in saying Q went to O to get stuff for "the authorities". I think it is cover stuff. But isn't it interesting that when the FBI could have planted a man inside the alleged LHO group, their own men, they had no interest? I suggest this is important.

Let us assume Oswald did tell Quiroga "Don't hit me". What was he then really saying? What he told Bringuier in saying don't train guerrillas from that dated book. He was rubbing it in. Why should he have assumed Q might hit him, on sight? Because he didn't know him? How close this is to the words he addressed to B, "Okay, Carlos; Hit me." But what does seem strange is the LHO was home so soon, unless there is a time log not indicated (as there could well have been, no time being indicated). For your information, from the entrence to that yard to that side porch, the front being a different address, is about 50 feet. The front is 4907.

Somoza I think the general was then a N.O. visitor.

All in all, extremely interesting, holding forth many fascinating possibilities. As you continue with this, I'd appreciate it if you would not only send me what you develop as you do but also set aside a duplicate set and keep it until you have gone as far as you can, for if I get it ahead of time I may forget and file it separately. At the end, a complete files, with all the letters, may be of great interest, esp. when I go after other withheld docs, like those on Ferrie.

In connection with other interests, - note your noting Q said LHO had helpers. Or do I misunderstand your emphasis? Anyway, about two months ago I wrote you noting that B knew there were two with LHO at the ITM and L could have been his source.

In all of this, let us not overlook the possibility that B could have had a number, maybe without even knowing it.

HW